APPENDIX II

NEWS PAMPHLETS

Or the total of some 546 new books entered m the *Stattoncts* Register* during the period 1591-4, 129 items are concerned with current news, of which 79 are prose and 46 verse, mostly ballads These figures again are approximate it is not always possible to tell whether an entry refers to a prose or a verse work, or whether it is news or fiction Greene's *Black bookes messenger,* for instance, is entered as 'The Repentance of a Cony catcher with the life and death of Mourton, and Ned Browne, twoo notable cony catchers The one latelie executed at Tyborne the other at Aix in ffraunce' (p * 5 0 At first sight it appears to be a news pamphlet, actually the book, as published, contained only the life and death of Ned Browne, and that a manifest fiction

The issue of news pamphlets was very erratic, and the list is more remarkable for what it omits than what it includes Nothing was entered which bears on the Lopez conspiracy,[1] and Racket's execution vvas unsung in any ballad, as, however, he died blaspheming, a doleful repentance would have been out of place The figures for 1591-4 are as follows

	I5QI Probe Aersc P P	159- P V	1391 P \	'594 P |
Foreign News				
(a) The War in France	24	21 2 -	3 10	- 2
(S) General	4	-1 -	2	1 43
Naval	42-	i I		- -
Home News	44 6	6 2	9	2 17
	36 8 17 22	19 7	7	10

The wars in France account for most of the news pamphlets Twenty-six publications (including two ballads) were entered between 23rd January and 2ist November, 1591, after which there was a break for three months, until 28th February, when their issue began again, and twelve were entered in four and a half

months Then there is a considerable gap, for from I9th July, 1592, to I4th April, 1594, only three entries are recorded The reason for this is that the war was fluctuating and uncertain The output of pamphlets rose in 1594 to ten in prose, with two ballads

[1] There were, however, a number of news pamphlets and ballads which were not entered, eg *A true report of sundry horrible conspiracies* (p 349)